

## Message Text

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43

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 EURE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00

INRE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-11 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20 SAM-01

A-01 OPR-02 SY-04 NIC-01 SCCT-02 IO-14 OC-06 CCO-00

DRC-01 /128 W

----- 042999

O R 271515Z SEP 74

FM AMEMBASSY LISBON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0627

INFO AMCONSUL LOURENCO MARQUES

AMCONSUL LUANDA

AMCONSUL OPORTO

AMCONSUL PONTA DELGADA

UNCLAS LISBON 4167

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT PO

SUBJ: ANTI-SPINOLA FORCES SPARK MELEE AT BULLFIGHT

REF: LISBON 4142

SUMMARY: SHOUTING MATCHES AND FISTFIGHTS ALONG LINE OF  
SPINOLA-AFM DIVISION ERUPTED SEPT 26 IN LISBON. BOTH  
SIDES APPEAR TO BE GATHERING STRENGTH FOR SEPT 28 RALLY  
AND PROBABLY CONFRONTATION. END SUMMARY.

1. ANTICIPATING ATTENDANCE BY PORTUGUESE PRESIDENT SPINOLA,  
A CAPACITY CROWD OF APPROXIMATELY 5000 FILLED LISBON'S  
BULLFIGHTING STADIUM EVENING SEPT 26. SPINOLA, ACCOMPANIED  
BY PRIMIN VASCO GONCALVES, GIVEN STANDING OVATION AS ENTERED  
STADIUM. FIRST HALF OF BULLFIGHT PASSED WITHOUT INCIDENT.  
PRESIDENT AGAIN CHEERED AS HE LEFT BOX DURING INTERMISSION  
AT WHICH TIME SMALL GROUP IN CROWD WHO SHOUTED PRO-AFM  
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(ARMED FORCES MOVEMENT) SLOGANS WERE JEERED BY MULTITUDE.

CROWD THEN BOOED AND SANG NATIONAL ANTHEM OVER STADIUM BAND WHEN IT TRIED TO PLAY PCP ANTHEM "AVANTE CAMARADA". SHOUTING EXCHANGE CONTINUED THROUGHOUT INTERMISSION WITH PRO-SPINOLA AUDIENCE DROWNING OUT ALL OPPOSITION.

2. AFTER BULLFIGHT AND OUTSIDE STADIUM, EMBOFF WITNESSED AT LEAST SEVEN PEOPLE CHASED AND BEATEN TO GROUND BY YOUNG ANTI-SPINOLA LEFTISTS WHO CALLED THEM "FASCISTS". FISTFIGHTS HALTED ONLY AFTER MOUNTED POLICE SKIKFULLY CONTROLLED CROWD DESPITE PROVOCATIVE TAUNTS AND ROCK-THROWING. CORE OF 250-300 LEFTISTS PROCEEDED IN TROOP-LIKE FORMATION APPROXIMATELY ONE MILE TO JAIL WHICH FORMERLY HELD POLITICAL POLICE. SPEAKERS AT SMALL RALLY IN FRONT OF JAIL DENOUNCED ANGOLAN FNLA AND UNITA, "ALLREACTIONARY FORCES", AND CALLED ON SUPPORT FOR WORKERS AT TAP, LISNAVE, AND JORNAL DO COMERCIO. GROUP LEADERS ALSO TOLD CROWD TO FIGHT FASCISTS AT SEPT 28 PRO-SPINOLA "SILENT MAJORITY" RALLY SPONSORED BY RIGHTISTS. CROWD IN FRONT OF JAIL DISPERSED EARLY MORNING FOLLOWING FISTFIGHTS.

3. DEMOCRATIC MOVEMENT (MDP/CDE) HAS STEPPED UP ITS OFFENSIVE AGAINST SATURDAY'S RALLY IN WAKE OF BULLFIGHT APPEARANCE BY SPINOLA. IT DISTRIBUTED HANDBILL AT 0200 SEPT 27 CALLING ON ALL MDP ACTIVISTS TO "IMMEDIATELY DO BATTLE AGAINST RHE REACTION". HANDBILL ORDERS MILITANTS TO IMPEDE SATURDAY'S DEMONSTRATION "BY ALL MEANS" IN ORDER PREVENT TRAVEL TO LISBON OF THOSE ELEMENTS WHO CONSCIOUSLY OR UNCONSCIOUSLY WILL BE USED BY THE REACTIONAIRES". OUR CONSUL IN OPORTO REPORTS THAT ROADBLOCKS OR PICKET LINES MAY BE SET UP ON ROADS LEADING TO LISBON BY "DEMOCRATS" IN ORDER TO KEEP PRO-SPINOLISTAS FROM THE RALLY.

4. WE HAVE A REPORT THAT POLICE AND A FEW MILITARY POLICE FORCES HAVE ALREADY MOVED INTO PLACE AT THE JERONIMOS RALLY SITE, WHICH SUGGESTS THEY MAY NOT CANCEL RALLY AT LAST MOMENT, BUT RATHER ATTEMPT TO KEEP IT UNDER CONTROL. PRESIDENT SPINOLA HAS STILL NOT PUBLICLY ASSOCIATED OR DISASSOCIATED HIMSELF FROM RALLY.

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5. COMMENT: ALTHOUGH VILLENCES RELATIVELY MINOR IN THIS CASE, SENSE OF SHOWDOWN IS ON RISE. MORE SERIOUS VIOLENCE MAY BE EXPECTED AT RALLY CALLED FOR BY PRO-SPINOLA MOVEMENT SEPT 28.

SCOTT

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## Message Attributes

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**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 27 SEP 1974  
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**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
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**Disposition Authority:** n/a  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
**Disposition Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Drafter:** n/a  
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